

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CHULA VISTA SAFETY COMMISSION**

**October 6, 2010
6:00 p.m.**

**Council Chambers
City Hall - Building 100
276 Fourth Avenue**

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 6:06 p.m.

1. Roll Call:

Present: Chair Liken; Commissioners Caudillo, Cochrane, Fuentes, Gove, Moriarty, and Navarro (arrived at 6:08 p.m.)

Absent: None.

Staff present: Frank Rivera, Principal Civil Engineer; Muna Cuthbert, Sr. Civil Engineer; Beth Chopp, Sr. Civil Engineer; Police Officer Shon Thurman; and Florence Picardal, Recording Secretary

Also present: Jim Sandoval, City Manager; Maria Kachadoorian, Finance Director; Police Chief Bejarano; Fire Chief Hanneman; Rick Hopkins, Public Works Director; and Kelly Bacon, Human Resources Director

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Opening Statement

Opening statement read by Chair Liken.

4. Approval of Minutes: June 2, 2010

MSUC (Moriarty/Cochrane) to approve the minutes of June 2, 2010 as submitted. (7-0)

5. Oral Communications

Steve Limber, Chula Vista resident, requested stop signs at the intersection of St. Germaine and St. Claire Drive.

MEETING AGENDA

6. Resolution of the Safety Commission of the City of Chula Vista Revising the Time Limited Parking along the South Side of East Palomar Street between Monarche Drive/Santa Rita and Monarche Drive/Santa Andrea Street

On April 8, 2010, the Otay Commercial One, LLC, owner of Heritage Town Center, on behalf of their tenants submitted a letter requesting an amendment/revision to the existing diagonal limited parking fronting their property along the south side of East Palomar Street between Monarche Drive/Santa Rita and Monarche Drive/Santa Andrea Street. Sr. Civil Engineer Cuthbert gave a short presentation.

Staff Recommendation: Safety Commission accept report and approve the revisions to the time limited parking on East Palomar Street.

MSUC (Liken/Cochrane) to adopt resolution revising the time limited parking along the south side of East Palomar Street between Monarche Drive/Santa Rita and Monarche Drive/Santa Andrea Street. (7-0)

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

7. Oral Report on City Manager's Proposed Budget Balancing Plan

City Manager, Jim Sandoval and Finance Director, Maria Kachadoorian gave a Powerpoint presentation on the budget balancing plan for fiscal year 2011-12. The City's General Fund has a projected deficit of \$12.5 million for fiscal year 2011-12. Given the magnitude of the proposed deficit, City management has prepared a budget-balancing plan designed to address the budget deficit. This presentation provided an overview of the City Manager's plan to close the budget gap.

Of particular importance to the Commission were the impacts to Police and Fire. Included in the budget balancing plan is the elimination of 91 positions, 19.5 positions are vacant and 71.5 positions would result in layoffs -- 33 would be Police Officers. The impact to the Police department would be:

- Elimination of School Resource Officer (SRO) Program
 - Transfers 2,600 calls for service (school generated) and 14,000 officer generated contacts to Patrol
 - Will negatively impact GMOC response thresholds – Priority 2 threshold has not been met since 1996
 - Shifts coordination of 1,800 School Safety Patrol children to school staff
- 50% reduction in Street Team staffing
 - Reduces proactive enforcement of high activity areas, crime series and gang enforcement
- 17% reduction in Investigations staffing
 - Increase in caseload by 67% for Property Crimes
 - Increase caseload and delays in investigative follow-up by Family Protection Unit investigators for domestic violence, child abuse and sex crime cases
- Reduction in traffic enforcement staffing
 - Traffic Motors – 25% reduction – reduces enforcement at problematic locations
 - DUI Officers – 33% reduction – reduces DUI enforcement and education

There would be 5 layoffs in Fire (non-sworn personnel). The impact to the Fire Department would be:

- Arson Investigations Program
 - Reduced investigation capabilities
 - Elimination of Arson K-9
 - Delay of fire investigations; not all fires will be investigated
- Fire Safety Engineering Program
 - Impacts to fire and life safety plan review & building permit plan review; no local control/oversight
 - Outsourcing services would result in potential additional cost to developers
- Fire Inspections Program
 - Delays in code compliance for business inspections
 - Delays in permit issuance and business license inspections
 - Elimination of Weed abatement and Wildland Urban Interface enforcement
- Public Education
 - All public education will be eliminated

The City's bargaining groups have been invited by management to discuss changes in compensation in order to avoid layoffs. To date, Western Council of Engineers (WCE), Chula Vista Mid Managers/Professional Association (CVMM/PROFA) and International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) have met with management. The Police Officers Association (POA) and Chula Vista Employees Association (CVEA) have yet to meet.

City Council, Executives, Senior Managers, Confidential and non-represented Mid-Managers/Professional groups will begin contributing 8% towards their pension costs in January 2011. If the remaining City employees agree to take the same action, this would help toward closing the \$12.5 million gap without layoffs. Seventy-two layoff notices and 41 demotion letters have already been given to City employees.

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

Due to legal risks surrounding the City's Telecommunications Users Tax, a ballot initiative has been approved by the City Council that will modernize the Telecommunications Users Tax Ordinance and secure approximately \$5.0 to \$6.0 million in existing revenues annually. If the ballot initiative (Proposition H) fails, this would result in the elimination of 54 additional positions and the corresponding service impacts..

Implementation of this balancing plan will commence on January 2011 in order to generate one-time savings in the current fiscal year that can be used to close the deficit in the coming fiscal year.

Public hearing opened.

1. Fred Rowbatham, representing Chula Vista Police Officer's Association, spoke against the layoff of Police Officers.
2. Carlos Valdivia, Chula Vista resident and also a Chula Vista Police Sergeant, spoke against the layoff of Police Officers.

Public hearing closed.

Chair Liken stated that he is an ex-Chula Vista Police Officer. He questioned Chief Bejarano on critical minimum staffing; proactive time; calls for service; and per capita figures.

Public Works Director Rick Hopkins briefly stated that the potential elimination of the graffiti abatement crews and reduction of urban forestry services funding would affect public safety.

Fire Chief Hanneman commented on the proposed cuts for the Fire Department. He stated that no fire stations will be closed and only the Fire Prevention bureau will be affected. Chief Hanneman explained why engines go to medical calls.

In closing, Chair Liken concurred with the public comments on the proposed cuts in Public Safety. He agreed with the pension reform in order to prevent layoffs. He offered to serve as a mediator for the bargaining groups in their discussions with management.

Commissioner Moriarty agreed with Chair Liken, did not want to see layoffs and hoped all bargaining groups would come back and negotiate to prevent the layoffs.

Chair Liken thanked everyone for the budget presentation.

Chair Liken recessed the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Chair Liken reconvened the meeting at 8:35 p.m. with all members present.

8. Resolution of the Safety Commission of the City of Chula Vista Recommending Adoption of the Bikeway Master Plan Update by City Council

On November 3, 2009, Council approved an agreement between the City of Chula vista and KTU+A for preparation of a Bikeway Master Plan Update. In order to compete for the Fiscal Year 2011/12 Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) funding cycle, the City must have a Bikeway Master Plan that was updated within the past five years. Staff proposes to take the Draft Final Report to Council for approval during November 2010. Senior Civil Engineer Beth Chopp gave a short presentation.

Staff Recommendation: Safety Commission accept staff report and recommend adoption of the Bikeway Master Plan Update by City Council.

MSC (Liken/Gove) to adopt resolution recommending adoption of the Bikeway Master Plan Update by City Council. (6-0-1, Moriarty absent)

Commissioner Moriarty left meeting at 9:00 p.m.
Commissioner Fuentes left meeting at 9:08 p.m.

9. Traffic Accident Summaries for May, June, July and August 2010

Officer Thurman gave a brief report on DUI's, "rat" lights (secondary light located on the back side of a traffic light used for enforcement of turns), red arrow signs at East H Street/Otay Lakes Road and Bonita Road/Otay Lakes Road.

OTHER BUSINESS

10 Commissioner Comments

11. Staff Comments

ADJOURNMENT AT 9:38 P.M. to the next scheduled meeting of November 3, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Florence Picardal, Recording Secretary

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UNOFFICIAL MINUTES